

**From:** Jed Singer  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** One voice

It seems ludicrous to me that they might receive a "punishment"/settlement that is, in effect, an excuse to make inroads into education, one of the few markets that they do not grip in a stranglehold.

The only people I know who are supportive of Microsoft and its monopolistic practices are Microsoft employees, and even most of them with whom I am acquainted are more ashamed of their company than anything else. As far as I can tell, it is the will of the people that something \_significant\_ be done to diminish their power; as it is, they abuse this power:

- \* by willfully disregarding well-established standards of information technology that have been formed by consensus of many and then forcing others to comply with their new proprietary creations
- \* and by spreading uncertainty, fear, and doubt in the minds of consumers, leading them to purchase Microsoft's products when in many cases there are other products that would work as well or better and cost less ("Well, I really like this other software, but it's not Microsoft; isn't that what everybody else uses? If I want to be compatible with them, I'd better pay more for something I like less...") - Not only are there frequently better/cheaper solutions, they almost never suffer from compatibility issues. Developers are aware that we live in a Microsoft-dominated world, and thus tend not to release products that are unable to function in such a world.

As I mentioned, it is my belief that it is the will of the American people that something be done to put a stop to this, though Microsoft has in the past attempted to argue otherwise (through numerous well-documented rigged surveys and imaginary statistics they have concocted). I urge you, as the arm of the government which exists of, by, and for the people, to take forceful action.

Thank you,

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